OUJI TO MAJOU TO HIMEGIMI TO

VOLUME 4, CHAPTER 22

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I always thought being
able to say those words...

was only natural.
HEY...
IS THIS REALLY THE RIGHT WAY?
EH?!
DON'T WE JUST FOLLOW THE PATH?
—WE'VE BEEN WALKING FOR THE PAST HALF HOUR BUT NO ONE'S TRIED TO SCARE US
TH-THAT'S TRUE
.....

AH, OKAY...
LET'S GO.
BUT THIS FOREST ISN'T TOO BIG...
WE CAN GET BACK USING THE ROAD WE'VE BEEN TAKING SO FAR.
RUSTLE
ANGRY
THAT BRAT WEARING THE DUMB MASK...
HE TRICKED ME... HOW DARE HE?!
EH...? BUT I DON'T THINK HE MEANT TO DO THAT...
!?
KYAAAAAAA!
WHAT?
I-It was just a leaf that fell on my head...
That really scared me
.....
ARE YOU NUTS?!
THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO STOP EVERY THREE SECONDS! JUST WHEN ARE WE EVER GOING TO GET BACK?!
Hurry up!
I-I-I-I know that, but...
UM, SUSUKURA-KUN...
I HAVE A PROPOSITION
.....

CAN ...
CAN I....
clench
HOLD ONTO YOU...?
SUSUHARA -KUN...?
...WHAT?
I KNOW I'M BEING ANNOYING! BUT... I-IF YOU LET ME HOLD ONTO YOU, THEN I MIGHT BE ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH YOU...! IT'D TAKE US LESS TIME, TOO!
DESPERATE
.....
...CHE!
For the sake of saving time...
JUST THIS ONE TIME,
GOT IT?
I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE THAT SACRIFICE THEN.
Totally unwilling
Waaaa!
THANK YOU SO MUCH!!
THEN... PARDON ME..

grab
SHIRT
OKAY, LET'S GO...!
GOOD ...
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO TEACH YOU A LESSON LATER.
IF YOU JUST WANTED TO HOLD ONTO MY SHIRT, YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO! WAY TO BE MISLEADING!
EH?!
I was scolded!
The person who thought she wanted to hold hands
BY THE WAY, WHAT'S SO SCARY ABOUT THIS TEST OF COURAGE, ANYWAY?
SERIOUSLY
IT'S REALLY SCARY!
LIKE JUST NOW
WHAT IF WE FALL VICTIM TO SOMETHING ?
OR WHAT IF A GHOST REALLY POPS OUT OF NO-WHERE ?
YOU REALLY ARE CRAZY
I DON'T THINK ANYTHING WILL HAPPEN
I'VE GOT LUCK THAT ALWAYS MANAGES TO SAVE THE DAY!
Che!
THE ONLY ONE WHO'D FALL VICTIM TO ANYTHING IS YOU.
WAH ...!!
BESIDES,
ON SUCH A BRIGHT NIGHT, DO YOU REALLY THINK ANYTHING WILL POP OUT?
...LOOK UP.
HUH?

WOW!
.....!
IT'S BEAUTIFUL ....!

Ah!
!
EVEN IF THERE ARE GHOSTS,
I HEAR THEY ONLY GO AFTER DEPRESSED-LOOKING PEOPLE
Just until a few seconds ago, her face was all ashen...
and she kept trembling...
SO YOU JUST NEED TO ...
SMILE STUPIDLY LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO
...trying to comfort me?
MAYBE ...?
IS HE ....

Hito Komoko

Height 146cm

Weight 43kg

Things She Likes
- Eating until she's full
- Sunbathing

As expected,

he's a good person.

HEY, SUSUHARA-KUN...

MAYBE THE THING YOU'RE AFRAID OF IS NOT BEING THE BEST AT EVERYTHING?

DO YOU THINK I'D TELL YOU?

YOU'RE RIGHT...

AH, I ALSO CAN'T EAT SPICY THINGS
SO I CAN'T EAT THINGS THAT ARE TOO HOT
I DON'T LIKE THE HEAT.
.....
HOW UN-EXPECTED.
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD DEFINITELY ANSWER "NO!"
That was 100% what I thought
.....
...
HM?
WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THESE THINGS?
YOU CRAZY BRAT
HUH?
smile
HMM, WELL...
I THINK IT'S MUCH BETTER TO TALK ABOUT THINGS YOU AREN'T GOOD AT...
RATHER THAN HIDING THEM.
THAT'S WHAT IT REALLY MEANS TO BE STRONG, AM I RIGHT?
AH, DON'T WORRY.
THERE'S NOTHING TO ARGUE OVER THIS TIME! I TOLD YOU MY WEAKNESS, BUT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S NOT TELLING ME
IT'S RATHER STINGY OF YOU!
SURE IS!
.....

I'm just kidding!
Hahaha! Are you mad?
I just thought I'd ask
...I-
I'M ALWAYS AFRAID THAT TOMORROW WON'T COME ....
THAT'S MINE.
Eh?
I SAID THAT,
I HAVE REALLY GOOD LUCK.
THAT'S BECAUSE ...
I'VE ONCE FACED A NEAR-DEATH SITUATION.

When I woke up a few hours later,
the first thing I saw...
was my mother's face.
I hadn't seen her in a while since she worked so often.
WHEN I WENT ON A HIKING TRIP WITH MY SCHOOL, I SLIPPED AND FELL.
I HIT MY HEAD REALLY HARD
When our eyes met,
she burst into tears.
There's always....
Mom would have continued crying like that.
...If I didn't wake up.

...an opposite side to every situation.
...I REALIZED
THAT YOU SHOULD SAY WHAT YOU WANT
WHENEVER YOU WANT TO SAY IT...
AND THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS "TO BE EXPECTED".
No matter what...
...YOU'RE RIGHT.

Every single day...
with those kinds of thoughts...
..YOU SHOULD ALWAYS
CONVEY YOUR FEELINGS WHILE
YOU'RE STILL ABLE TO DO SO.
THAT'S WHY SUSUHARA KUN
REGARDLESS OF WHO HE'S SPEAKING TO, IS ALWAYS SO BLUNT AND STRAIGHTFORWARD.
Though he's probably feeling different...
Ah!
PERHAPS
THE AMULET THAT FELL OUT OF YOUR POCKET AT DINNER...
DID YOUR MOTHER GIVE THAT TO YOU AFTER THE ACCIDENT?
SHOCK

BUT SOMEHOW IT FEELS LIKE IF YOU HAVE THAT AMULET WITH YOU,
THEN YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF!
Ah
SO I'M RIGHT.
...DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO FORGET ABOUT THAT?
.....
YOU CRAZY BRAT
IT'S MY AMULET FOR-
.....
WHAT IS IT?
.....?

EH?!
...IT'S NOT HERE.
DID I DROP IT...?
EH?!
"!"
Y-You're joking, right?
WHAT GOOD WOULD IT DO ME TO JOKE ABOUT THIS?!
You still had it when we left didn't you?
OH WELL,
WE'D BETTER FIND OUR WAY BACK.
.....
.....
I'M USED TO WEARING THE UNIFORM.
SO I FORGOT HOW EASILY IT'D FALL OUT WHEN I'M WEARING CASUAL CLOTHES
HAH?!
THAT'S NO GOOD!
I'LL HELP YOU FIND IT!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE SCARED!
ARE YOU NUTS?!
B-BUT...! IF YOU DON'T HAVE THAT AMULET, YOU'LL DIE!
DON'T RANDOMLY WISH DEATH UPON ME.

...I-
I'm not scared
Not scared at all...!
Alright!
.....
THAT WON'T DO!
THAT AMULET IS FULL OF YOUR MOTHER'S CONCERNS FOR YOU! HOW COULD YOU JUST LEAVE IT BEHIND LIKE THAT?!
THAT'S NOT RIGHT AT ALL!
IT FELL OUT OF HIS BACK POCKET ...
I SHOULD'VE NOTICED IT SINCE I WAS WALKING BEHIND HIM.
I'm really sensitive to sound
Is it over there?
RUSTLE
IF I DIDN'T NOTICE IT MAYBE IT FELL WHEN I WASN'T LOOKING AHEAD?
WHEN WAS THAT? I REMEMBER IT WAS..

I decided .....
that in my next life I would come out victorious.
.....
EARLIER...
WHEN I WAS LOOKING UP AT THE STARS!
I'LL JUST HAVE TO GO IN AND LOOK FOR IT!
I'm so stupid!
IS IT OVER HERE?!
I THINK IT WAS A LITTLE BIT FURTHER ...
"I have placed a curse...
Someone who claiming to be the witch!
on the extremely guilty Prince Charming.
will soon emerge...
The Prince is no longer of this world."

obtain the glass slipper...
Just how should I...
from someone I am...
"Princess,
you should obediently follow your original course.
That way, I will allow you to meet the Prince once more, who will be reincarnated as a woman.
And on that stage, you can continue your battle over his heart..."

completely unable to reach...?
...I-
FOUND IT!
SURPRISED
!!
Hurray!
It was really close by!
MOTIONLESS
LOOK!
I FOUND IT, SUSUHARA-KUN!
THIS IS DEFINITELY IT! IT'S THE SAME COLOUR AS THE ONE I SAW EARLIER!
.....
AH!
KEKEKE, I ALMOST FORGOT.
?
...WHAT?

ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT A GLASS SLIPPER,
PLEASE ACCEPT THIS...
MY DEAR CINDERELLA.

HAHA!
I'M JUST KIDDING!
HEHEHE!
It's because of your warmth...
...that my heart is reacting this way.

I WON'T THANK YOU OR ANY-THING
Che!
YOU EM-BARRASS-ING LITTLE BRAT
He still belongs to the princesses ....
But isn't he thanking me right now?
Eh?
Still...
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR COURAGE FROM JST NOW?
QUIT BEING SO FLAKY, STUPID!
U-You're right
...WHAT DO YOU THINK?
PISSED
UMM ...
CAN I HOLD ON-TO YOU AGAIN. .?
WELL, LET'S GET GOING
EEK!
SHOCK

IF YOU'RE STILL SCARED,
YOU CAN HOLD MY HAND.

...H-
H-HOLD YOUR HAND?!
EHHH?!
...WHAT'S WRONG?
YOUR FACE IS ALL RED ...?
!!
This is...! H-Holding hands...?!
Wh-What should I do?! This is...
WAHHH!

!
Such an absurd thing...!
WAHHH!
YOU'RE TOO SLOW.
WAH...!
I WANT TO GET BACK SOON, YOU KNOW.
HURRY UP, IDIOT.
Too...
Too close!
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
...!

A REAL G-...?!
RUSTLE
WHAT'S THAT GLOWING THING THERE?
!?
HM?
C-CALM DOWN... MY HEART ...!
I'M NOT TRICKING YOU THIS TIME! LOOK!
YOU REALLY ARE AN IDIOT.
I-I WON'T FALL FOR THAT AGAIN, SUSUHARA-KUN!
IT'S TRUE...
THERE'S SOMETHING GLOWING OVER... THERE...
...!?
IT... IT CAN'T BE...
It's moving...!

I found Subaru-senpai and Susuhara-senpai! Over!
...MO... MOTOCHIKA-KUN...?
Yup! What is it?
AH!
fluorescent paint
It's Subaru-senpai!
Senpai, the fact that you two got lost spread all over the forest!
To everyone who has a walkie-talkie anyway
EHHH?!?!
WHY ARE YOU TWO HOLDING HANDS?! I'M SO JEALOUS!
!?
Please head this way. Don't get lost this time!
Subaru-senpai, play with me after, okay?!
OKAY. I'LL SEE YOU LATER, MOTOCHIKA-KUN!
SHE ASKED IF WE COULD HOLD HANDS BEFORE WE STARTED IT WAS AGAINST MY WILL.
No... this is.
!
EH...?!
Senpai actually said something so bold?!
As seriously!

.....
I thought he would tell Motochika-kun about my fear of ghosts...
I GUESS HE'S NOT GOING TO, THOUGH.
SUSUHARA -KUN, THANK YOU.
FOR KEEPING MY SECRET.
...AH.
DON'T MISUNDERSTAND.
EH?
I JUST THOUGHT ...
IT WOULDN'T BE A BAD IDEA...
IF I WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS YOUR WEAKNESSES
smile

...I MUST KEEP CALM UNTIL THE VERY END...!
.....
WE'LL JUST SEE HOW CHEEKY YOU CAN GET NOW! IT'LL BE QUITE THE SPECTACLE!
WAHAHA!
his body temperature is slightly lower...
Susuhara -kun...

so I'll keep this a secret for now.

But it also makes people feel at ease...

than I had expected.